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RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY 0777  
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RHMFIUU/COMUSKOREA J5 SEOUL KOR PRIORITY  
RHMFISS/COMUSFK SEOUL KOR PRIORITY  
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SENSITIVE  
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TAGS: [PREL](#) [AF](#) [PK](#) [KS](#)  
SUBJECT: ROK TO ISSUE STRONG STATEMENT OF SUPPORT ON  
AFGHANISTAN/PAKISTAN STRATEGY

REF: STATE 122731

Sensitive but unclassified. Not for Internet distribution.

¶1. (SBU) In advance of the President's speech, Ambassador discussed U.S. policy on Afghanistan in detail with ROK National Security Advisor Kim Sung-hwan. Kim stressed that Seoul would issue a "supportive statement" following President Obama's speech.

¶2. (SBU) The DCM followed up with the ROKG's point person on Afghanistan/Pakistan issues, Deputy Foreign Minister Lee Young-joon, delivering the reftel information. Lee said the ROKG appreciated the preview and looked forward to receiving additional details, particularly on troop numbers. He provided the text of a statement that MOFAT will release on Wednesday afternoon, local time:

Begin unofficial translation:

Spokesperson's Commentary Regarding the U.S. Government's  
Announcement of its Afghanistan Strategic Review

The Korean Government supports the expansion of U.S. support for Afghanistan in order to accelerate the stabilization and reconstruction of Afghanistan through the increase of its troops, among others, which was announced on December 1 as the result of the U.S. Government's strategic review.

The Korean Government hopes that the sustained efforts of the U.S. Government, including today's announcement, will contribute greatly to the efforts of the Afghan people and international community for the quick stabilization and reconstruction of Afghanistan.

The Korean Government intends to continue its participation in international efforts to support the stabilization and reconstruction of Afghanistan.

End unofficial translation.  
STEPHENS